

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered). Please CANCEL claims 2-11 and 14-19 without prejudice and AMEND claims 1, 12, and 13 in accordance with the following:

1. (Currently Amended) An advertising method for distributing advertisements to user terminals on a network from an awareness device for managing user status, the advertising method comprising:

storing as a ~~user-status-setting~~ alternative for a primary user a symbol representing an advertiser, the symbol being ~~originally provided~~obtained by a user terminal of the primary user from a system of by the advertiser ~~and capable of reminding a person of items or services of the advertiser as well as the advertiser itself;~~

~~accepting from a primary user a request to use~~set the symbol obtained by the user terminal of the primary user as a status of the primary user self-status designation, said request being sent from the system of the advertiser when the system of the advertiser offers a coupon to the primary user; and

distributing to a user terminal used by a secondary user the symbol obtained by the user terminal of the primary user ~~representing as the status of the primary user~~ user's status via the network.

Claims 2-11 (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable recording medium on which is recorded a program for an advertising method for distributing advertisements to user terminals on a network, the program being employed by an awareness device for managing user status, the program causing a computer to perform at least:

storing as a ~~user-status-setting~~ alternative for a primary user a symbol representing an advertiser, the symbol being ~~originally provided~~obtained by a user terminal of the primary user from a system of by the advertiser ~~and capable of reminding a person of items or services of the~~

advertiser as well as the advertiser itself;

accepting ~~from a primary user~~ a request to ~~use~~set the symbol obtained by the user terminal of the primary user as a status of the primary user self-status designation, said request being sent from the system of the advertiser when the system of the advertiser offers a coupon to the primary user; and

distributing to a user terminal used by a secondary user the symbol obtained by the user terminal of the primary user representing as the status of the primary user user's status via the network.

13. (Currently Amended) An awareness server for managing user status, the awareness server communicatively connected ~~to at least one user~~ terminals terminal via a network and comprising:

storing means storing as a ~~user-status-setting alternative for a primary user~~ a symbol representing an advertiser, the symbol being ~~originally provided~~obtained by a user terminal of the primary user from a system of ~~by the advertiser and capable of reminding a person of items or services of the advertiser as well as the advertiser itself~~;

accepting means accepting ~~from a primary user~~ a request to ~~use~~set the symbol obtained by the user terminal of the primary user as a status of the primary user self-status designation, said request being sent from the system of the advertiser when the system of the advertiser offers a coupon to the primary user; and

distributing means distributing to ~~the at least one a~~ user terminal used by a secondary user the symbol obtained by the user terminal of the primary user representing as the status of the primary user user's status via the network.

Claims 14-19 (Cancelled)